

Central City Neighborhood Association
September 22, 2010
7:00PM Meeting Called to Order

In attendance: 10 Members
7 Guests

Megan Braunsten:

Executive Director of Gresham Downtown Development Association

This is a non-profit group. It represents commercial property owners. Megan goes to Meetings to give advice and works with people trying to start up a business.

Vacancies in Downtown Gresham are up. This organization is working on business recruitment. Waiving 100% of fees through March, 2011. This includes Rockwood.

Discussed: Teddy Bear Parade(10:00 to 12:00 noon) and event at Center for the Arts Plaza(until 2:00PM). Helmets (child/adult) sold; pizza; bouncy house, etc.

Downtown streets will be worked on (surface sealed); notices will go up before this happens.

4 new businesses starting Downtown (radio station opening in October).

Walking Map & Business Directory available for 2010-2011.

Farmer's Market: not moving for at least 8-10 years.

Wednesday Farmer's Market: ? return next year.

Antique store beside Sweet Betty's Bistro and Sweet Cakes.

Downtown Parking forum at Gresham City Hall, September 23, 2010 at 6:30 PM in City Council Chambers.

Discuss: meters ;how to pay for this. Suggestion made: ? park at Senior Center and have a shuttle bus.

Public question: noise levels up near East Hill Church. Bob Pung to meet with private citizens re garbage trucks(5 days/week, 4-5 AM), street sweepers and music from nearby businesses (late at night). Procedure: fill out complaint form. Meet with City Manager; go to mediation?

Politician signs: in wrong places? ;too many?

Police Gang Enforcement Team:

Introductions to several members of the Team. They work in East County. Starts at I-205, Fairview ,Sandy ,etc. The Team takes no calls but can assist patrol officers if they are busy. Follow graffiti assaults, etc. All gang problems. The Team knows the gang members, their families, girlfriends, etc. Know their names, descriptions, hang-outs, etc. Check drive-by shootings. There are 120 documented gangs and they estimate that there are 3 gangs not documented for every one that is.

This is a State Grant Funded organization and can follow these gangs. Consists of 6 officers, 1 Detective. Multnomah County to pick up 1 officer, Supervisor. The Team doesn't work during the day. They work together in 2-man cars.

When gang members are expelled, they don't have a vacation. They have private home tutoring. There is a "School Resource Officer" at the schools. Gangs go to school to "network". The School Officer also handles complaints of child abuse, vandalism, etc.

Parents: the Officers know the parents, visit them and have resources to help parents. Some parents are in denial and ,maybe, they are a problem, too.

Community: get apartment managers to work with police. Get pictures of tagging (before removing) and report gang activities (they are taking pictures of neighbor yards). Problems with gangs ,drugs, etc , call the gang enforcement team.

Question: How can we help Police with funding? Diane McKeel.

East County is neglected in the media. Portland had 11 shootings ; Gresham had 8-9 and we got the shooter. The Gresham Team helps Portland with their gang problem. Police Team goes everywhere; no

boundries. Gangs are lazy and anonymous; police take that away. Gresham Transit problems: gangs go where ever buses and trains go.

Summary: Young kids are seen with drugs. Get the best description possible. Watch for strange kids in your neighborhood and even adults with small kids are with drugs. No age groups, economic lines. Graffiti: pictures ,then clean up and call the Hot Line.

Phone numbers: non-emergency police :(503) 823-3333.

Cathy Harrington (503) 618-2482 ; graffiti and manager of volunteers.

Lina Sizmin (503) 618-2469 ; Assistant.

Metro: Clint Holly

To have a meeting to discuss land use needs.

Section 8: full and waiting list is 3 years. HUD: nothing available for 3 years.

Meeting adjourned 9:00PM by Bob Pung, President

Next Meeting is October 20, 2010 with Commissioner Diane McKeel ; 7-9PM.